

## Frats, ILGs Predict Increase in Pledges

By Jay Cameron  
STAFF REPORTER

As rush begins today, fraternities say they are more optimistic about recruitment going into the second year of having rush during the semester.

"I have every reason to believe that by the end of the month, we'll have more new members than after rush last year," said Interfraternity Council Rush Chairman John J. Huss '05. "I see more contact between fraternities and freshmen than I did during [the same time] last year."

"I think it's going to be a great rush. We are much better prepared than we were last year as a community," said Frank S. Council, MIT coordinator for Fraternities, Sororities, and Independent Living Groups.

Council said that though rush went well last year "in terms of numbers," some houses, perhaps unprepared for the new rush system, achieved "smaller numbers" than in previous years.

Epsilon Theta Rush Co-Chair Jennifer J. Tu '05 said, "It's looking really good. We've got a lot of interesting events planned."

Tu agreed that the timing for rush this year is "much better" than

last year, mentioning that because it's earlier, there are no serious quizzes and tests to divide the attention of potential rushees between school and rush.

"We have a lot more name recognition than we have had in the past," said Alpha Delta Phi Rush Chairman Joshua T. Ouellette '04. "We put a lot of effort into Campus Preview Weekend."

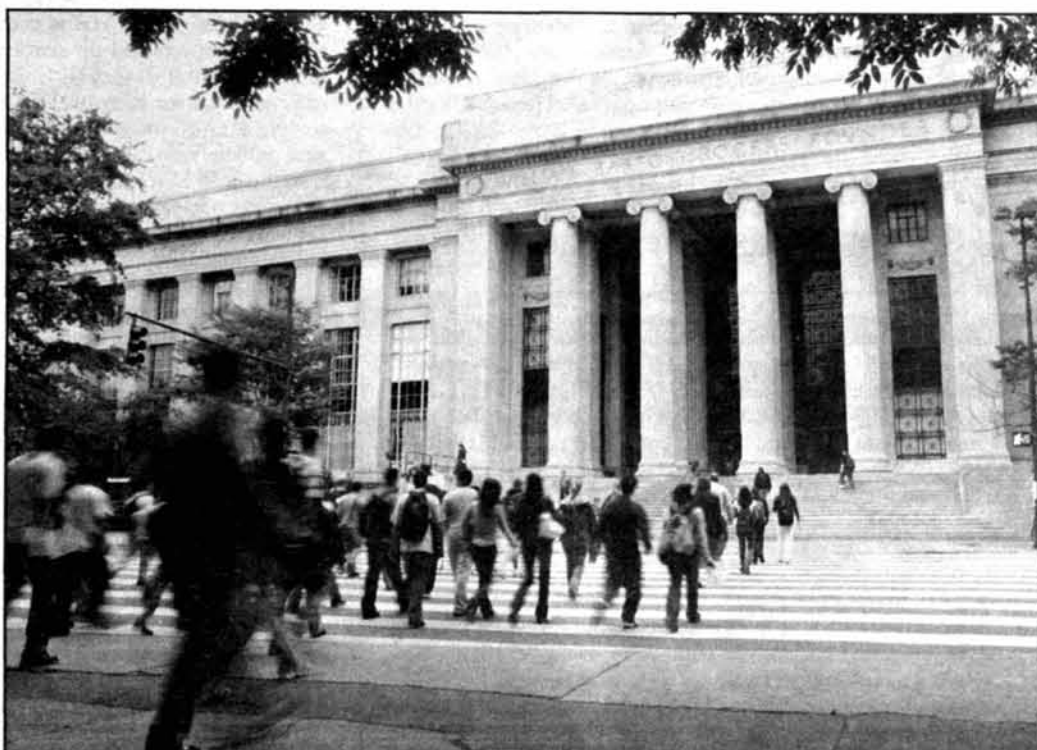
Some freshmen have already begun making connections with houses. Dimitrios Pouloupoulos '07 said, "I think it's good for the freshmen to see the fraternities and see what they have to offer ... I will probably go to the rush activities of Number Six fraternity."

### Houses struggle during transition

Some houses struggled last year, meaning a poor rush this year would make it "more difficult to survive as a house," said Council.

Fall of 2002 was the first year that freshmen were not allowed to live in FSILGs, leaving them with many empty beds and less income to support expenses. In response, Dean for Student Life Larry G. Benedict approved a contingency plan that offered reimbursements to

Rush, Page 13



Members of the MIT community cross Massachusetts Avenue Wednesday morning. Wednesday marked the first day of classes for the fall semester.

PETER R. RUSSO—THE TECH

## Passing Rate for FEE Levels Off

By Issel Lim

Three out of four freshmen passed the Freshman Essay Evaluation this year, consistent with last

year, but a large increase from one-fifth who passed in 2000.

The percentage who passed the Physics I (8.01) Advanced Standing exam doubled. Results for the other departments such as math, chemistry and biology were not available.

The placement exams are used to place students at an appropriate level within each department, allowing them to skip the corresponding introductory course. Students who do not pass the FEE or do not receive a 5 on the Advanced Placement English Literature or Language exam must take a Communication Intensive humanities, arts and social sciences writing subject in their freshman year.

Associate Dean for Academic Resources Julie B. Norman said that data for freshmen AP, International Baccalaureate, and transfer credit granted are not available since the numbers change throughout the

year.

### FEE pass rate stays constant

This year, 615 students or 74 percent received a score of "Pass" on the FEE, similar to the 73 percent who did last year. They may now take any Communication Intensive HASS or CI-HW subject to fulfill their communication requirement.

A total of 730 students took the exam online in the summer, and 166 students took the handwritten exam in August at MIT.

The pass rate has increased sharply in the past three years, from only 19 percent in 2000 to 59 percent in 2001 to 74 percent now.

Of those who did not pass, 186 students (22 percent) received a score of "Writing Subject Required" and must complete a CI-HW their freshman year. Three percent

FEE, Page 10

## Class of 2004 Council Candidates

The candidates listed below have been approved by the Undergraduate Association's Election Commission to run for the 2004 Class Council. There are also petitions pending for those who have received extensions on their applications for candidacy as President, Vice President, Secretary, and Social Chair.

### President

Goodwin Chen  
Patrick Y. Kim  
Atif Z. Qadir

### Vice President

Ken Nesmith

### Secretary

Christine Chang

### Social Chair

(no approved candidates)

Approved candidates may begin campaigning today at 8 a.m. Online voting begins Tuesday.

SOURCE: UA ELECTION COMMISSION



WAN YUSOF WAN MORSHIDI—THE TECH

The Musical Theatre Guild's production of "Into the Woods" runs Sept. 5-6 and Sept. 11-13 at 8 p.m. in Kresge Little Theater. See photos, page 6.

## RIAA Resends Subpoena For KaZaA User's Name

By Keith J. Winstein  
NEWS EDITOR

The Recording Industry Association of America has sent MIT a second subpoena, this time using the procedure requested by MIT, that asks for the identity of a network user alleged to have been illegally "offering hundreds of copyrighted works to the world-at-large" from MIT's network through the KaZaA file-sharing system.

MIT has indicated it plans to hand over the information of a user believed to be the owner of the computer involved. It was not immediately clear when MIT planned to respond to the subpoena. The name MIT plans to release has not been publicly released, but whoever is named appears likely to be the target of a copyright infringement lawsuit by the Association.



MTG's *Into the Woods* enters its second week.

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Comics

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SPORTS

Phil Janowicz spreads the love (and hate) with this week's Jano Awards.

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# WORLD & NATION

## Catholic Priests Want to Reopen Debate on Celibacy

THE NEW YORK TIMES

A long-simmering debate among Roman Catholics in the United States about whether to open the priesthood to married men is back in the forefront, pressed by priests who say they are concerned about their dwindling ranks.

While leading American bishops released letters on Thursday defending mandatory celibacy for priests as a vital church tradition that is not open to discussion, groups of priests in several dioceses were considering joining fellow priests in Milwaukee who recently petitioned for just such a dialogue in the church.

"There is an enormous amount of support for this among priests," said the Rev. Donald C. Fisher of the Association of Pittsburgh Priests, a liberal group of priests and laypeople that plans to collect 5,000 signatures on a petition supporting optional celibacy. "It's the elephant in every clerical living room."

## Supreme Court to Hear Campaign Finance Case on Monday

THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Nearly everything about the campaign finance case that the Supreme Court will hear in a special session on Monday is outsized: four hours of argument (compared with the usual 60 minutes); eight lawyers (compared with the usual two); a lower court record of some 100,000 pages along with opinions totaling 1,638 pages that left the law in a greater state of confusion than it had been before.

Ten separate groups of plaintiffs are challenging 13 provisions of a 61-page statute that even specialists in election law describe as dauntingly complex, in what many regard as the most important election case in a generation.

During the 10 months the law has been in effect, the political system has scrambled to adjust to new rules that may well be changed once again depending on how the court rules, just as the next campaign season gets fully under way.

The most direct impact has been felt so far by the national political parties, with the Democrats suffering most from the loss of the big unregulated contributions known as soft money, and the Republicans getting most of the benefit from the doubling to \$2,000 of the so-called hard money contributions to individual candidates.

## Afghan Terrorists Financed By Drug Trade, U.N. Official Says

THE NEW YORK TIMES

KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

The U.S.-led coalition force in Afghanistan must address the country's drug trade because the huge opium and heroin crops are being used by militants to fund their activities, the top U.N. drug official has warned.

Antonio Maria Costa, executive director of the Vienna-based U.N. Office on Drugs and Crime, said in an interview here on Tuesday that there were indications that persons carrying out violence in Afghanistan were financing their attacks with drug trafficking, and in some places forcing farmers to grow opium poppies.

"The terrorists and traffickers are the same people," he said at the end of a weeklong visit to Afghanistan. "You cannot fight the war against terror without going against drug trafficking."

Costa said that he had asked the U.S.-led forces here several times to focus on the drug trade, and that he had seen reports that military forces had recently intercepted drug traffickers and had destroyed at least one illegal heroin laboratory.

Afghanistan was the world's largest source of illicit opium in 2002, producing 3,750 tons, according to the U.N. Office of Drugs and Crime.

# Bush Authorizes Negotiators To Offer Aid to North Korea

By David E. Sanger  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

President Bush, in a significant policy shift going into talks last week with North Korea, authorized American negotiators to say the United States is prepared to take a range of steps to aid the starving nation — from gradually easing sanctions to an eventual peace treaty, senior American officials said on Thursday. In return, North Korea would have to begin to surrender its nuclear weapons and all the facilities to develop them, the officials added.

The proposals were described to the North Koreans at the talks, which were held in Beijing last week. They constitute a major departure from the official White House statements earlier this year that North Korea would see no benefits from a new relationship until it shipped all its weapons out of the country and dismantled all of its nuclear facilities.

The administration apparently acceded to some of the arguments from within the State Department, and from allies like South Korea, that the negotiations would break down if Washington could not

describe some vision of how relations could improve.

In a brief telephone conversation on Thursday evening, Bush's national security adviser, Condoleezza Rice, disputed the notion that Bush was changing tactics. She stressed that any major benefits to North Korea would come only after the country could no longer pose a nuclear threat or rebuild its nuclear capacity.

In the past, Rice has criticized the Clinton administration's 1994 nuclear freeze agreement with North Korea for giving the country fuel oil before it dismantled anything. But she and other officials said that Bush was presented with a new negotiating strategy at his ranch in Texas last month, and approved the specifics after a meeting of his senior national security aides in late August.

"We're going to give these talks a real chance," Rice said. "This is the best opportunity for getting a resolution for a long time." But she quickly added that "a lot depends on North Korean behavior." This was a clear reference to its threat, delivered at the talks last week, to conduct a nuclear test, and previous threats to make its supplies of plutonium available to the highest bidder. Bush has

called such comments "blackmail."

The key change in the approach at the Beijing talks was in providing for a sequence of rewards to North Korea, according to a State Department official who briefed reporters on Thursday and other officials familiar with the talks.

Late last year, the White House publicly dismissed the notion that North Korea would see any benefits before its entire nuclear infrastructure was eliminated. But even then, a behind-the-scenes struggle was playing out between State Department officials — who favored offering some rewards to the North Koreans for intermediate steps — and hardliners in the Pentagon and the vice president's office.

That struggle continues, and officials said that the parties were fully engaged in it up to the time the negotiating team, led by James Kelly, the assistant secretary of state for Asian affairs, left for Beijing last week.

But the senior State Department official said on Thursday that that "we made clear that we are not seeking to strangle North Korea," and the negotiators said "we are willing to discuss a sequence of denuclearization measures with corresponding measures on the part of both sides."

# Recruitment of Iraqi Security Will Accelerate, Rumsfeld Says

By Douglas Jehl  
and Dexter Filkins  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

BAGHDAD, IRAQ

Defense Secretary Donald H. Rumsfeld, arriving in Iraq on Thursday, said his highest priority is to accelerate the recruitment, training and deployment of former Iraqi officers to work with the United States to combat disorder and violence here.

The plans outlined by Rumsfeld on Thursday represented a shift and appeared to reflect the growing realization here and in Washington that the money and manpower so far committed to the American project in Iraq are proving insufficient to the task.

Repeated car bombings and attacks on American soldiers, coupled with a growing sense in Iraq and

in United States of the limits of American power, appear to have placed the Bush administration in the difficult situation of recognizing a need for more troops without being able to ask for any more from the United States.

Rumsfeld is the most senior American official to visit Iraq since May, and his journey comes closely on the heels of a wave of bombing attacks, including the strike six days ago that killed a top Shiite cleric and nearly 100 others in Najaf.

The new emphasis on enlisting more Iraqis to work on achieving greater security has come in tandem with the administration's decision to turn to the United Nations — once viewed with great skepticism — for help in recruiting more non-Ameri-

can soldiers.

At least 50,000 Iraqis are already in place as part of a new Iraqi army, police force and civil defense corps, defense officials said. But Rumsfeld said he would encourage American commanders and civilian leaders, as well as members of Iraq's Governing Council, to speed up the recruitment and screening of thousands more former Iraqi officers. These recruitments could include anyone up to the rank of lieutenant-colonel, officials said.

Pressure on American forces here have grown as Iraq has proved more difficult to control than was anticipated. A recent study by the Congressional Budget Office showed that the Army has too few active-duty troops to sustain the occupation beyond March.

# WEATHER

## Fabian Blasts Bermuda

By Michael J. Ring  
STAFF METEOROLOGIST

Early September is the peak of the Atlantic hurricane season, so it's no surprise that today's weather headline is the ferocious storm Fabian. As of yesterday afternoon, Fabian was centered about 400 miles (670 kilometers) south of Bermuda, and was steaming north-northwestward. Today the hurricane is expected to pass near Bermuda, bringing 120 mph (200 kph) winds to the resort island. While Bermuda is likely to get battered, Fabian's effects here should be limited to rough surf, as the storm is expected to be pushed eastward after passing Bermuda.

With Fabian passing out to sea, our weather will be much more mundane. High pressure will settle in to the region from the west, allowing us to dry off from yesterday's rain. The next few days will be pleasant and fall-like with clear skies and seasonable temperatures.

### Weekend Outlook:

**Today:** Clearing skies. High near 73°F (23°C).

**Tonight:** Clear and seasonably cool. Low near 58°F (14°C).

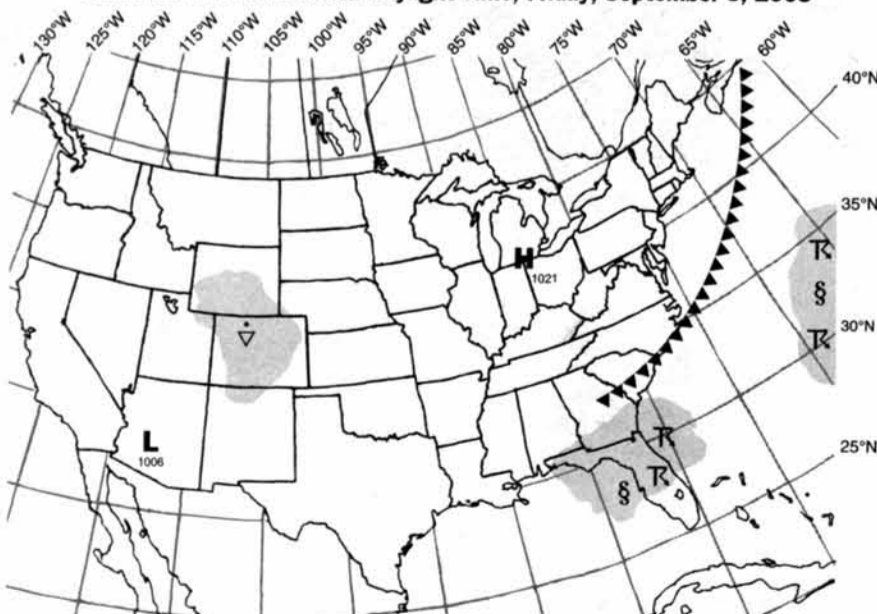
**Tomorrow:** Mostly sunny. High near 75°F (24°C).

**Tomorrow night:** Clear. Low near 60°F (16°C).

**Sunday:** Partly cloudy and warmer. High near 80°F (27°C); low near 60°F (16°C).

**Monday:** Mostly clear and cooler. High near 70°F (21°C).

Situation for Noon Eastern Daylight Time, Friday, September 5, 2003



Weather Systems	Weather Fronts	Precipitation Symbols	Other Symbols
H High Pressure	— Trough	Snow	Fog
L Low Pressure	— Warm Front	Light	Thunderstorm
§ Hurricane	▲ Cold Front	Moderate	Haze
	— Stationary Front	Heavy	

Compiled by MIT  
Meteorology Staff  
and The Tech

# Embattled Estrada Withdraws From Debate Over Nomination

By Neil A. Lewis  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WASHINGTON

Miguel Estrada, whose nomination by President Bush to an important federal appeals court post was blocked by an extraordinary filibuster mounted by Senate Democrats, gave up his two-year struggle on Thursday.

"I write to ask you to withdraw my pending nomination," Estrada said in a letter to Bush. "I believe that the time has come to return my full attention to the practice of law and to regain the ability to make long-term plans for my family."

The fight over Estrada's nomination was the most prominent and most protracted battle in what has

become a nasty ideological and political war with no end in sight between the White House and Senate Democrats over who gets to sit on the federal bench.

Republicans moved swiftly to deplore Estrada's fate and turn his withdrawal into a mobilizing moment among the party faithful akin to the 1987 defeat of Judge Robert Bork's nomination to the Supreme Court. That event became depicted as a great injustice, and it generated long-term political fervor.

"Despite his superb qualifications and the wide bipartisan support for his nomination, these Democrat senators repeatedly blocked an up-or-down vote that would have led to Mr. Estrada's confirmation," Bush

said in a statement referring to the Democratic filibuster or threat of extended debate that prevented the nomination from coming to a vote on the Senate floor.

"The treatment of this fine man is an unfortunate chapter in the Senate's history," Bush said.

Other Republicans were far harsher, noting that Estrada became the first appeals court nominee defeated through a filibuster strategy. While they were reluctant to say so explicitly, some strongly suggested he was opposed by Democrats because of his Hispanic heritage.

Rep. Tom DeLay of Texas, the House majority leader, said Estrada was the victim of a "political hate crime."

# With Mounting Confidence, Gov. Davis Campaigns Against Recall

By Dean E. Murphy  
THE NEW YORK TIMES

WALNUT CREEK, CALIF.

As Gov. Gray Davis of California left the first recall debate here on Wednesday, he had the air of confidence of a man gaining control over his political destiny. Though the outcome of the Oct. 7 recall election remains anyone's guess, and Davis continues to trail even in his campaign's internal polls, there is a growing sentiment among Democrats and many political analysts that Davis has a fighting chance of surviving the effort to oust him.

Just a few weeks ago, many of the same people had written off Davis' prospects and were suggesting the Democrats' only salvation

lay with Lt. Gov. Cruz M. Bustamante, one of the 135 candidates lined up for the governor's job should he lose the recall vote.

"Sometimes you like the devil you have more than the devil you don't have, so you hold your nose, and say, 'OK,'" said Barbara O'Connor, director of the Institute for the Study of Politics and Media at the California State University, Sacramento. "I think he has a shot, and I wouldn't have said that a month ago."

Davis seems to be benefiting indirectly from divisions within the Republican Party, reflected by a standoff between the party's two leading candidates for his job, actor Arnold Schwarzenegger and state

Sen. Tom McClintock. If Davis loses the recall vote, which will be determined by a simple majority, the successor candidate with the most votes on the second part of the ballot would become governor.

Efforts have failed by top Republicans to get McClintock, the contest's most heralded conservative, to drop out. Even if they were to succeed before Oct. 7, McClintock's name would remain on the replacement ballot and would likely draw the votes of his most dedicated followers anyway.

Davis also has the advantage that Bustamante, the top Democrat among the possible successors, is a lackluster campaigner who has staked out many positions to the left of Davis.

## Energy Department Cuts Back On Lie-Detector Tests

THE NEW YORK TIMES

The Energy Department said on Thursday in a surprise announcement that it was sharply cutting the number of lie-detector tests it will give to people who have access to nuclear secrets, particularly at the nation's weapons laboratories.

Deputy Energy Secretary Kyle E. McSlarrow told a Senate hearing that the new policy was likely to reduce the number of people given polygraph tests from some 20,000 now to 4,500, mainly in sensitive arms and intelligence posts.

"No one," he said, "has suggested that we abandon their use, or that we hire people and entrust them with national defense information with no prior checks or reviews whatsoever."

But McSlarrow acknowledged that the department, which runs the nation's nuclear weapons laboratories, had faced many criticisms of the polygraph technique in the last year and had come to agree with some of them. Thus, he said, officials proposed "substantial changes" in the tests' routine use for trying to ferret out spies.

In 2001, Congress instructed the Department of Energy to adopt widespread polygraph screening in reaction to the case of Wen Ho Lee, the scientist at the Los Alamos weapons laboratory in New Mexico who was suspected of being a spy but was freed from jail in September 2000 after admitting to a security violation.

That order raised an outcry from experts who ridiculed lie detector tests as pseudoscientific and a potential threat to national security.

## U.S. Open Finally Resumes Play After Continuing Rain Delays

THE NEW YORK TIMES

NEW YORK

The U.S. Open match that began Monday in the high-profile court in Louis Armstrong Stadium did not end until Thursday at 5:28 p.m. in the much more modest confines of Court 10. After four days, three court changes, one injured chair umpire, too much rain and too little sleep, Francesca Schiavone of Italy dropped to her knees with delight and relief after Ai Sugiyama of Japan knocked her last shot wide in what had been expected to be routine fourth-round encounter.

Not that Schiavone would have much time to savor her 6-7 (5), 7-5, 6-2 victory. Because of the rain that washed out all but four matches on Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday and because Open organizers remain determined to play the women's final as scheduled Saturday night, Schiavone was asked to take only a few hours' rest before playing her quarterfinal against Jennifer Capriati.

"I will be ready," Schiavone said.

It would be advisable to be ready for anything at this Open, including the upset of second-seeded Roger Federer of Switzerland. He lost in the Round of 16 on Thursday to 13th-seeded David Nalbandian of Argentina, 3-6, 7-6 (1), 6-4, 6-3.

Empty room?



Get Art.



## Student Loan Art Program

Exhibit Open Daily Sept. 2 — 14<sup>th</sup> 12 — 6 pm

Reception Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> 5 — 7 pm

Graduate Students' Reception Sept. 12<sup>th</sup> 5 — 7 pm

LIST VISUAL  
ARTS CENTER

MIT UNDERGRADUATE AND GRADUATE STUDENTS ARE INVITED TO ENTER THE ART LOAN LOTTERY  
WEISNER BUILDING E15 [HTTP://WEB.MIT.EDU/LVAC](http://web.mit.edu/lvac) 617.253.4680

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## Letters To The Editor

### Another Banking Option

Your survey of local banks overlooked a bank which I think people new to the area may want to consider. Wainwright Bank and Trust Company now has branches in Kendall Square, Central Square, Harvard Square, Davis Square, Downtown Crossing, and four other locations. Wainwright offers a checking account with no minimum balance and no monthly fees as well as a value account whose fees are waived with direct deposit of a paycheck (or other automatic deposit). Wainwright ATM cards are accepted without fees at any ATM machine that is part of the SUM network (which includes Cambridge Trust, MITFCU, and many other smaller banks). And for what it's worth, they bill themselves as a 'socially conscious community bank.' Check them out on the web at <http://www.wainwrightbank.com/>.

(Oh, and for the record, I'm not affiliated in any way — just a happy customer who went through two lousy evil-corporate-monster-sized-we'll-ignore-you-unless-you-have-\$30,000-or-more banks before being told about Wainwright.)

Milan de Vries G

### Terror Futures Are Not Immoral

Terror futures markets have been proposed (and rejected). The idea is to use a dedicated futures market to forecast political and terrorist events. One objection is that the market could

be manipulated by the evil-doers themselves. Specifically, they could trade on predictions they know are false; this would be costly but could erode the predictive power of the market. Alternatively, they could make accurate predictions to finance their own activities (but this would also improve market predictions). These are valid concerns but it seems likely that a small and specialized market could be well monitored for such schemes. It should also be noted that the terrorists already have viable alternatives that are harder to trace (short-selling on the conventional market).

Be that as it may, the point of this letter is not to establish how effective these markets would be in practice. I write to refute the main argument of *The Tech* editorial (Aug. 28, majority view), which categorically states that terror markets should not be used because "It is immoral to gain a profit or advantage in life based on the death of a fellow man." Gun-slingers and assassins behold! And funeral directors, coroners, and crisis counselors, you are immoral too!

This is not right. Clearly, we must distinguish between those who gain profit by causing the death of their fellow man (they are indeed immoral), and those who gain profit by successfully alleviating the suffering (they are not).

A terror futures market falls into the second category. Traders would make money by accurately forecasting terrible events; thereby reducing the evil by helping the rest of us to be better prepared. They are no more immoral than the analyst who gets paid to do such forecasts today, or the coroner in the previous example.

The editorial rhetorically questions if this technology "...would help enough to outweigh its immorality." My response echoes

that of the insightful editorial dissenting view: if it does any help at all, then it is worth using! I challenge the editorial majority to answer the question they have brought up themselves. How many prevented/mitigated attacks or saved lives would it take for the editorial majority to overcome its "moral" objections?

The position presented by *The Tech* editorial is popular and politically correct, but it is not logically coherent. If terror analysts and coroners are not immoral, then neither are terror futures. I'll wager the board majority will find it difficult to explain why they are different!

Tor Schoenmeyr

## Errata

An Aug. 27 article ["Ex-Prof Loses in Court"] referred imprecisely to a lack of comment from former Assistant Professor of Mathematics Maurice H.P.M. van Putten. Van Putten declined to discuss his lawsuit seeking to be rehired as an assistant professor, instead referring a reporter to an MIT press release about his current research as an MIT research affiliate. He did not decline to comment.

A short article last Thursday in the World and Nation section ["Germany May Be Willing To Expand Military Presence in Iraq"] carried an incorrect headline. The article discussed Germany's consideration of an expansion of its military presence in Afghanistan, not Iraq. Germany does not have a military presence in Iraq.

## Opinion Policy

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# Forget Davis, Recall Californians

William Li

Aside from my attempts to run for California governor this summer, I passed the usual three months in Los Angeles with my family. In the end, I guess I just wasn't willing to part with \$3,500 of my hard-earned summer income; and the sun-washed beaches and throbbing nightlife proved too tempting for me to take time to file the mundane paperwork. I was well on my way, though, to collecting the necessary 65 signatures on my nomination paper. Maybe next time, when the weather gets to the heads of Californians again, when another millionaire offers "Dollar per Signature," then I just might join the circus.

The special recall election of current California governor Gray Davis, scheduled for Oct. 7 of this year, provides much needed comic relief for Californians, who suffered through a budget deadlock this summer lasting 33 days, who pay the nation's highest utility bills but must still endure rolling blackouts, and who are now experiencing tax increases of every imaginable kind to make up for a \$35 billion budget deficit. The 135 candidates running to replace Davis represent well the diverse, liberal, and trend-setting culture that makes up California. Among the hopefuls there is the famous: Arnold the Terminator, and the infamous: Larry Flynt, self-proclaimed free speech activist and proud publisher of triple X-rated *Hustler* magazine. We have the creative: a model handing out thongs as part of her campaign and the thoughtful: a porn star who wants to make lap dances tax deductible. And in the spirit of entrepreneurship, there are two candidates whose explicit and single campaign platform is publicity for their beer.

The political mayhem in California, which began this summer with a petition to recall Davis, and which will likely continue many months after the recall election, has provided the rest of the country, and possibly even the world, many good, hard laughs. For some of us, it is a sobering look at the pitfalls of a political system overrun by initiatives and recalls.

In the early 1900s, an amendment to Cali-

fornia's state constitution allowed for controversial matters to be voted on in general elections, provided the matter received a threshold number of signatures from voters first. Since then, California has decided many key issues on election ballots, including taxes, bilingual education, medical marijuana, and immigration. The rhetoric behind this practice claims that the reign of power has been restored to the people's hands. In reality, however, the practice has allowed special interest groups and selfish elites, those who possess the skills and hold the resources to place a proposition on the ballot, to overrun California politics. The driving force behind the petition to recall California Governor Gray Davis was not the state's dismal financial condition, which was equally bad nine months ago when he was reelected, but one million dollars offered by a Republican congressman. The money went to professional petition signature-gathering companies, who collected in total 1.4 million signatures, nearly twice the 800,000 required, at the price of nearly a dollar per signature.

A further problem in this kind of direct democracy is that voters are constantly subject to the tyranny of the majority. California's special recall election will come in two parts. First, voters will decide whether the governor should be recalled. Second, they will choose a candidate listed on the ballot to replace him, in the event he is recalled. If a majority is attained for the recall, then the candidate with the most votes in the second

portion of the ballot will become the new governor. The recall fails if a majority cannot be attained in the first part, and Davis retains his seat. With 135 names on the ballot, this means, mathematically, that so long as 50 percent plus one voters vote yes on the recall, California's next governor could take office with under

1% of the popular vote. This obviously extreme and unlikely scenario illustrates the dangers of the majority. Even before weighing the merits of the recall, as that would be a separate argument running many pages long,

we see clearly the troubles involved with individual empowerment in the form of initiatives and recalls, at least at the level Californians have been permitted to run with the idea.

Since their institution, propositions have had a long history of corruption and run-ins with the Constitution, resulting in the reversal of many of their outcomes by the Supreme Court. This recall election is on track to set its own precedent. Our founding fathers, the framers of our Constitution, knew that the

masses were simply too fickle, too ignorant and too preoccupied for politics. A political system that required their direct participation would fall apart. Instead, they opted for citizens to participate directly in

the election of their representatives, who would be held accountable to his or her constituents. This type of representative democracy, because of the limited size of the decision-making body, and the skills and knowledge that each member possesses, allow for debate, negotiations and compromise amidst conflicting views and agendas. On the other hand, such compromise is impossible to come by in a direct democracy where the passions and ideologies of the masses clash for an almost certain less than optimal result.

The California public have been grossly dissatisfied with the problems in their state for sometime now. Led by an opportunist who focused on the inadequacies of Gray Davis, the public expectedly made the governor a scapegoat for all their troubles. In their frustrations, 1.4 million of them signed a petition for a recall election, without level-headedly considering the \$35 million cost of the election, which is not budgeted and will most likely come out of already thinning allocations for social benefits and education. Most of the signers probably also failed to consider the impossibly short amount of time counties, some of which still use the nightmarish punch-card system, will have to prepare for such an important election, and the months it could take them after the election to count ballots that have 135 names printed on multiple pages.

So now, after some in the public have come to these realizations, there are talks of an initiative to recall recall elections, and maybe sometime down the road, we'll see an initiative to ban initiatives.

*Led by an opportunist who focused on the inadequacies of Gray Davis, the public expectedly made the governor a scapegoat for all their troubles.*

*The political mayhem in California, which began this summer with a petition to recall Davis, and which will likely continue many months after the recall election, has provided the rest of the country, and possibly even the world, many good, hard laughs.*

# Franken Turns the Tables on the Right

Andrew C. Thomas

I have a confession to make. You see, I claimed in writing ("Parodied? Don't Panic," Aug. 25) that a copy of Al Franken's latest attention-getter, "Lies and the Lying Liars that Tell Them: A Fair and Balanced Look at the Right," was being mailed to me as I wrote. Well, despite my intention to order the book online, I hadn't followed through. So there you go; according to some, I might belong in the same group of liars that Franken wants to identify.

Well, almost.

It's not like I was intentionally trying to deceive anyone with the claim (after all, the next day I bought the book at the Coop); that alone should set me apart from his targets. With his terribly subtle title, Franken is not aiming at those who slip up on occasion (heck, even he did, while writing the book, and he admitted it freely). His campaign is to expose those who deliberately misrepresent and distort the truth for their own purposes. And he starts in style by making the strongest case found between its covers: a thorough yet comical debunking of the tactics and professionalism of Ann Coulter.

By focusing on Coulter first, he also corrects what many see as her biggest offensive weapon: sloppiness, deliberate or otherwise. Franken's book is very well researched, and it shows; he leaves easy traces so that anyone reading the book can confirm his findings. Or should I say, his group's findings. For as he freely admits, he didn't write the book alone. Like any reputable faculty member writing a

text (Franken was with Harvard's Kennedy School of Government at the time), he had the willing assistance of a group of Harvard students, affectionately nicknamed Team-Franken.

Yes, Franken is a comedian, and it doesn't have the same rigor as a lengthy political essay; but it's so much easier to read that way. There are passages where laughing out loud is not optional, including a passage where he "interrogates" Newsweek's Evan Thomas in order to debunk a Coulter claim and put just a little more egg on her professional face.

But what is most amusing about this book is, ironically, not what is inside the pages; it is the almost predictable reaction from the media. Those who agreed with him laughed out loud; those who didn't, though, displayed the exact behavior he predicted of them. Internet

scoopster Matt Drudge paid special attention to the book in the Drudge Report. As seen on the Web site on Aug. 28, Drudge made mention of three supposed Franken humiliations, all of which he atoned for in the book, and all of which were appropriate for his mission. But what would this be without irony? In true Coulter fashion, Drudge's story links to each "embarrassment" were reviews with a positive angle and only passing mention to the offenses.

There was also a huff about Franken's recent appearance on CNN's Crossfire in a column by Carl Limbacher on NewsMax.com, a noted conservative news site, claiming that

Franken was making "baseless complaints" about a right-wing media bias. Oddly enough, a cursory examination of the transcript shows a very concrete base for his claim: studies showing a dominant number of Republican editors and publishers in the press, as quoted by (liberal) guest Joe Conason on the show and by Franken in "Lies." Limbacher is either a sloppy or dishonest columnist (I'm not sure which). If I'm the first one to point it out, I'll be amazed.

Of course, I don't think it's any coincidence that Franken didn't portray Drudge and NewsMax.com in the best possible light.

Anyone who reads the book, or for that matter, even the first few chapters where Franken establishes his premise, can see that this pursuit is as easy as shooting fish in a barrel. He sees it as jujitsu, using the opponent's own techniques or words against them. Heck, even I can do it with nothing more than Google at my fingertips. Of course, it's not like it couldn't have been done before, but Franken just made it a hell of a lot easier, and more fun.

Franken has truly taken a leadership role in making all people accountable for their words and actions, not just on the right wing. And as an added bonus, he just marked a few targets for easy scrutiny for the rest of us. (Al, if you're reading this, I have to say: for the next printing, please put in an index. It'll make your points easier to find when people like me try to fact-check, except, of course, that making points hard to find works so well with the theme of the book.)

Franken has succeeded triumphantly in doing what satirists do, using his jagged sense of humor to do political good and making the opposition feel uncomfortable about it at the same time. Sadly, those who need the advice and technique he dispenses will likely not appreciate it or take it to heart.

# The Real Reason for Embedded Journalists

Ruth Miller

Much attention has been given to the tragic and unnecessary death of embedded Reuters cameraman Mazen Dana on Aug. 17. While this is a very sad event, some people seem to be missing the point.

Frequent use of the term "embedded" avoids the phrase "embedded in war" and leaves out that nasty w-word. It's easy to read over the word "embedded" and not even think about what it really means. While this is easier to use in everyday conversation, as well as easier to swallow in an unpopular war, it loses some of its meaning. The old adage is true: war is hell. Rather than demanding preventative action from the U.S. military to protect the lives of these journalists, it may be useful to remember that these journalists are embedded in a war and run the same risks as everyone else.

The U.S. military has earned its reputation for being cold. Sure, changing "Department of War" to "Department of Defense" was heartwarming in a bureaucratic sort of way, but that was the original job description and it remains true today. Regardless of the necessity of military action in Iraq, the most streamlined and concise operation possible will save more American lives in the end than a slow, albeit politically correct one.

Knowing the risks of warfare, soldiers continue to fight. They see a variety of guerrilla tactics, and have adapted to protect themselves by striking first. By being this cautious, military personnel run the risk of "friendly fire" and "collateral damage." These fluffy euphemisms are nice to say, but represent tragic deaths like that of Mazen Dana. He, and other embedded journalists, are also familiar with guerrilla warfare. Unfortunately, their capacity to remain objective observers is limited in the battlefield, and this brings into question the feasibility of having journalists safely embedded in a war. However, knowing the varied use and scale of guerrilla tactics, journalists continue to risk their lives to document this gruesome war.

While this intention is incredibly noble, it is also being squandered. Why would America have journalists embedded in a war? To keep the people updated on foreign affairs? Try again. To offer information for the casual bemusement of civilians? Perhaps. To throw the same repeated images and phrases at a country with a large percentage of people who have already broken their rash post 9/11 pledges to care about the rest of the world? That sounds more like it.

The presidency of George H. W. Bush could be characterized by an unpopular war and the loss of reelection. Here in 2003, things are looking similar for another Bush. Now, how could George W. Bush change public opinion? With a massive campaign blitz capitalizing on some patriotic footage from his presidency? But of course! Imagine what will be clogging the media around election time next year. We'll be inundated by repetitive pictures of Saddam Hussein statues falling, liberated Iraqis giving soldiers the thumbs up, smiling Iraqi children waving American flags, a gaudy show from the Commander in Chief landing on the USS Lincoln in a fighter jet. This looks great on TV, but what went into forming this campaign? How many lives?

Expect the military to show just enough support for the journalists so they stay and record the happy, patriotic moments. The free press is being used and abused by the system in America. Their passion for free speech and knowledge are being manipulated by the military and the administration to form a viable reelection campaign. The foreign press reports a much different war in Iraq than what Americans see. Is this because of the USA Patriot Act? Possibly. In an age where publicly questioning government policy is fewer degrees of freedom than ever from being linked to terrorism, it can be understandable that American media has become more or less a mouth piece of the Bush camp. So if we aren't getting all the facts right, or all the right facts, why waste any more journalists covering the war in Iraq?

Don't risk any more lives than necessary to reelect this one term president. The noble intention of the free press is being squandered in Iraq, as are lives. Let's focus the real journalism on what caused this war so we can prevent the next.

Ruth Miller is a member of the class of 2007.

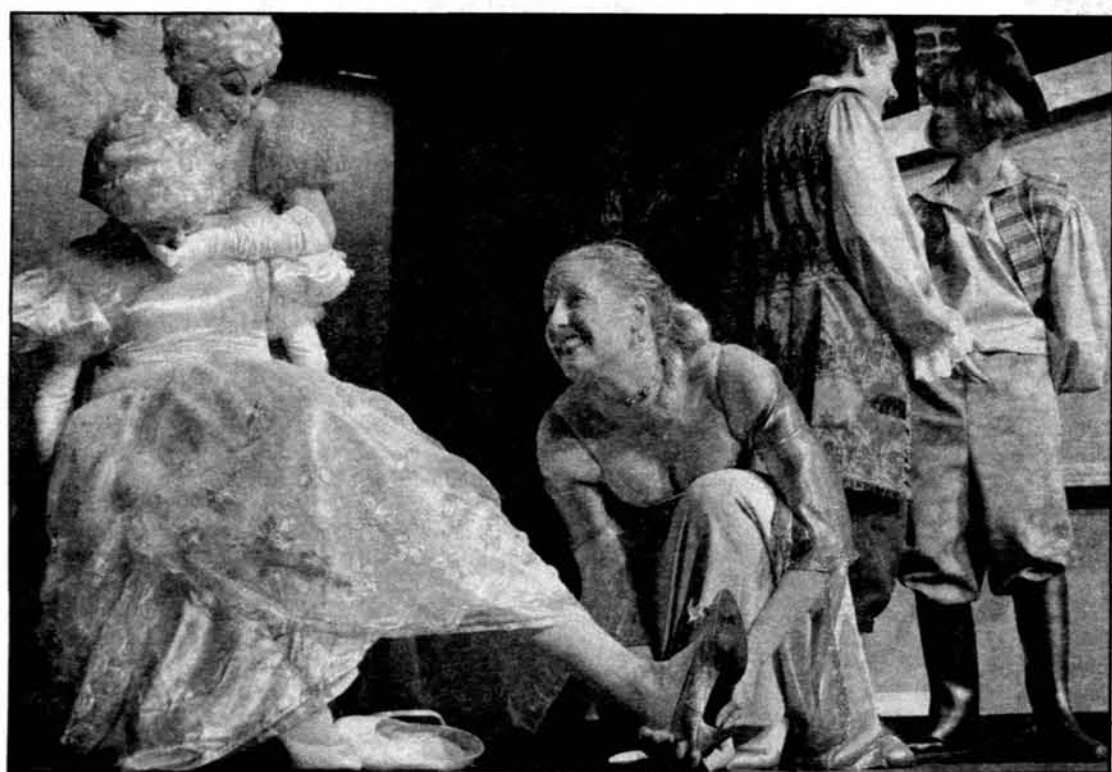
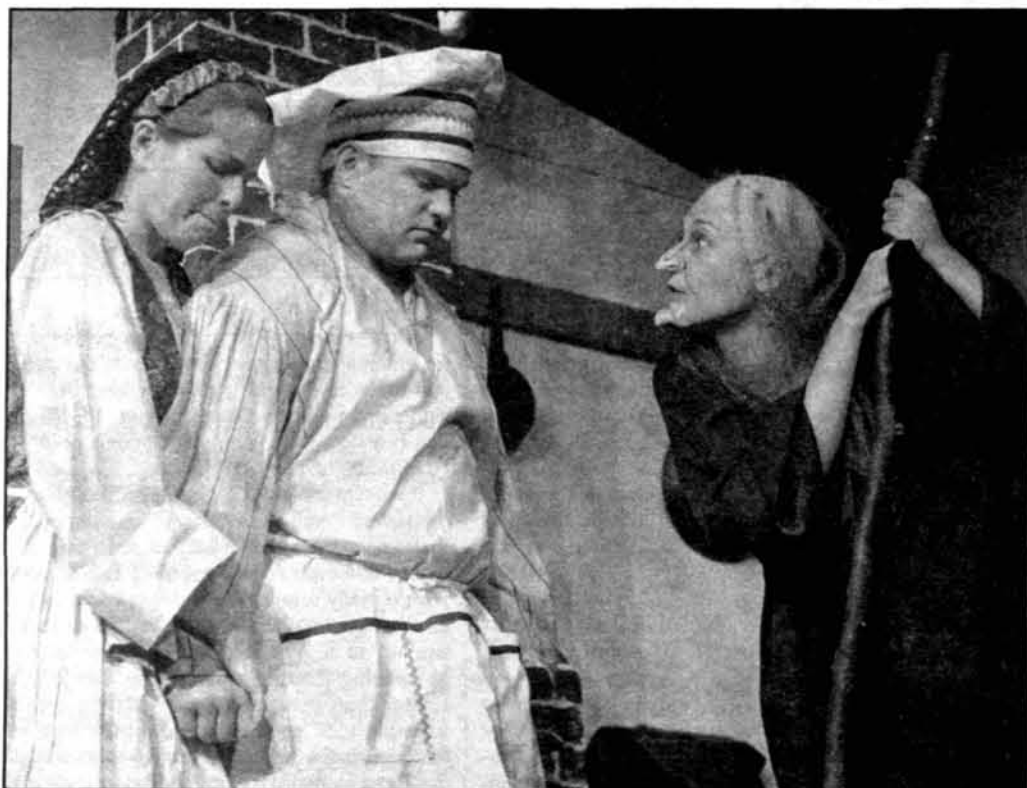
*[Franken's] campaign is to expose those who deliberately misrepresent and distort the truth for their own purposes.*

## ARTS

# A Twist on Fairy Tales

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### *Into The Woods*



The Musical Theatre Guild's production of Stephen Sondheim's *Into the Woods* runs Sept. 5-6 and Sept. 11-13 at 8 p.m. in Kresge Little Theater.

(From Top)

The Witch (Welkin H. Pope G) brings bad tidings to the childless Baker (Peter G. Chambers G) and his Wife (Caitlin Q. Marlow '03).

Cinderella (Eleanor M. Pritchard '06) recounts her happy time with the Prince at the Royal Ball.

The childless Baker's Wife (Caitlin Q. Marlow '03) helps the fallen Cinderella (Eleanor M. Pritchard '06) who slipped in the woods while running in her glass slippers.

Lucinda (Jennifer M. Braun '03) is in agony as her mother (Steph S. Chiesi G) forces Cinderella's slippers onto her foot while her sister Florinda (Marissa L. Jacovich '04), covers her mouth. In the background is Cinderella's father (Gregory J. Lohman G) and the Steward (Timothy I. Abrahamsen '06).

Cinderella (Eleanor M. Pritchard '06) gives her step-sister, Florinda (Marissa L. Jacovich '04), a rough hairdo in preparation for the Royal Ball.

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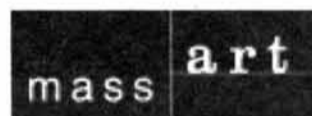
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from page 18

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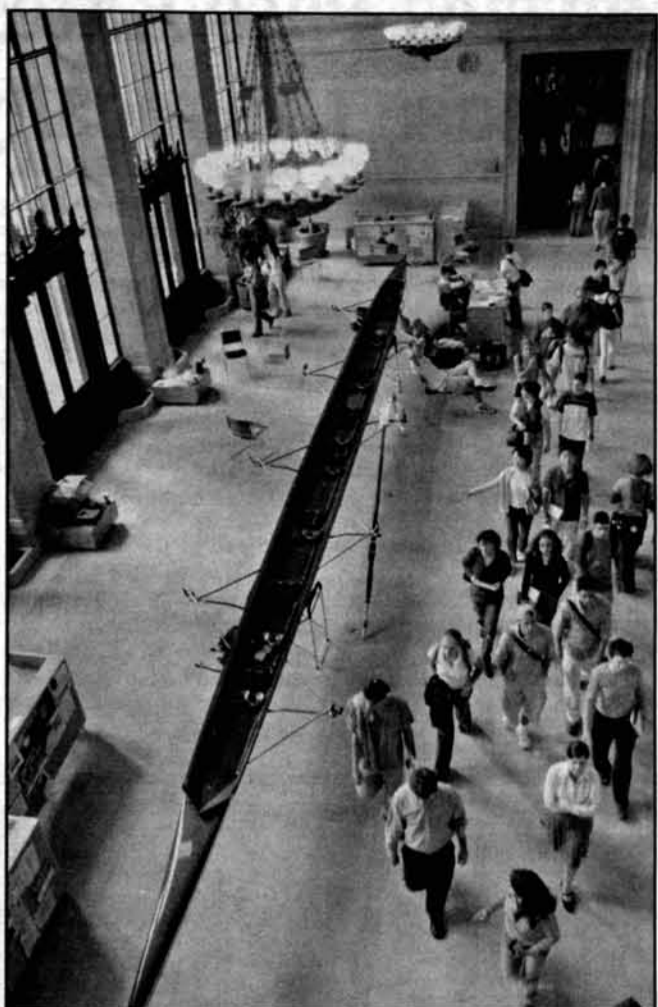
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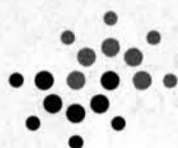
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## Physics Pass Rates Increase Drastically

FEE, from Page 1

received a score of "English as a Second Language Subject Required" and must take Expository Writing for Bilingual Students (21F.222).

Leslie C. Perelman, director of writing across the curriculum, whose office administers the test, said that when the faculty decide a FEE score, they ask themselves the question "Will this person do okay in a CI-H subject, or does this person need some work on their writing?"

Ben M. Baumgold '07 said that he wrote about early decision versus early action, and his essay about "a new experience" included Campus Preview Weekend on Fifth East at Next House.

Over half pass physics exams

Of the 80 freshmen taking the 8.01 placement exam, 59 percent passed compared with 24 percent in 2002. Seventy percent of the 44 who took the Physics II (8.02) exam passed, compared with only 39 percent in 2002.

Physics Academic Administrator Brian E. Canavan said since a different group of faculty writes each exam, the exact passing score changes with each exam.

Zachary D. Wissner-Gross '07, who passed the 8.02 exam, said that "It wasn't too bad, but they had a couple of topics that aren't covered in AP Physics C." To prepare for the exam, students can study the TEAL web site, read lectures, or do workshops from 8.02T.



PETER R. RUSSO—THE TECH

Drummer Steve Asaro of the band Nikulydin plays at the Thirsty Ear Pub, Wednesday night. The pub regularly hosts live bands as part of their LIVEmusic@theEAR series.



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Detailed information about these and other groups is available at  
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Professor Phillip L. Clay  
Chancellor

Professor James D. Bruce  
Vice President for Information Systems

August 22, 2003

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# Frats, ILGs Try New Formats for Kickoff

Rush, from Page 1

FSILGs for empty beds. The reimbursement amount will slowly shrink over time.

"For the short term, it's helpful," Council said, but because it's a three-year transition plan, fraternities and living groups must "plan for the future."

## Rush begins with Kresge Kickoff

Rush Kickoff is from noon to 5 p.m. on Kresge Oval today, when IFC members will begin handing out rush information to potential recruits. The LGC will also hold a rush carnival co-sponsored by the Science and Engineering Business

Club and Smile@MIT starting at 1 p.m.

Today's kickoff will be different from two years ago, when the kickoff event brought together the entire freshman class in Killian Court to meet the FSILG members who gathered on the sidelines awaiting the signal to begin rush. This year, fraternities and ILGs will be encouraged to attend the kickoff, but it will mainly be a promotional event for the next ten days of official fraternity rush and seventeen days of living group rush.

Sororities will begin an informal recruitment this fall but will not begin formal recruitment until spring.



**Cambridge firefighters help a colleague onto a stretcher while fighting a three-alarm house fire at 14 Fort Washington Place in Cambridgeport on Saturday, Aug. 30. The fire completely destroyed the apartment, and damaged neighboring apartments. None of the residents were injured.**

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17.906

# Law, Violence and Justice

Professor Austin Sarat  
Fridays 1:00 - 3:00 pm  
E51-385



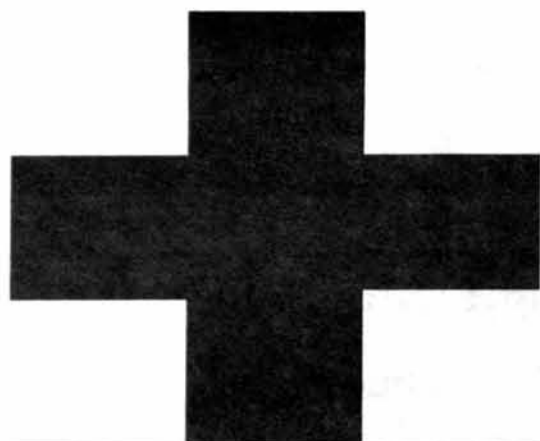
Law in the United States is everywhere, ordering the most minute details of daily life while at the same time making life and death judgments. It claims to do justice and to be justified in using violence to pursue its aims. We will attend to the peculiar ways the American legal system deals with the human suffering-with examples ranging from the legal treatment of persons living in poverty to the treatment of victims of sexual assault. How is law organized to cope with their pain? How are the actions of persons who inflict injuries on others defined in legal terms? Here we will examine cases on self-defense and capital punishment. Throughout, attention will be given to the practices of police, prosecutors, judges, and others who deploy law's violence.

For more information contact Prof.Sarat ([adsarat@amherst.edu](mailto:adsarat@amherst.edu)) or Tobie Weiner (E53-484, 3-3639, [iguanatw@mit.edu](mailto:iguanatw@mit.edu))

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Friday, Sept. 12

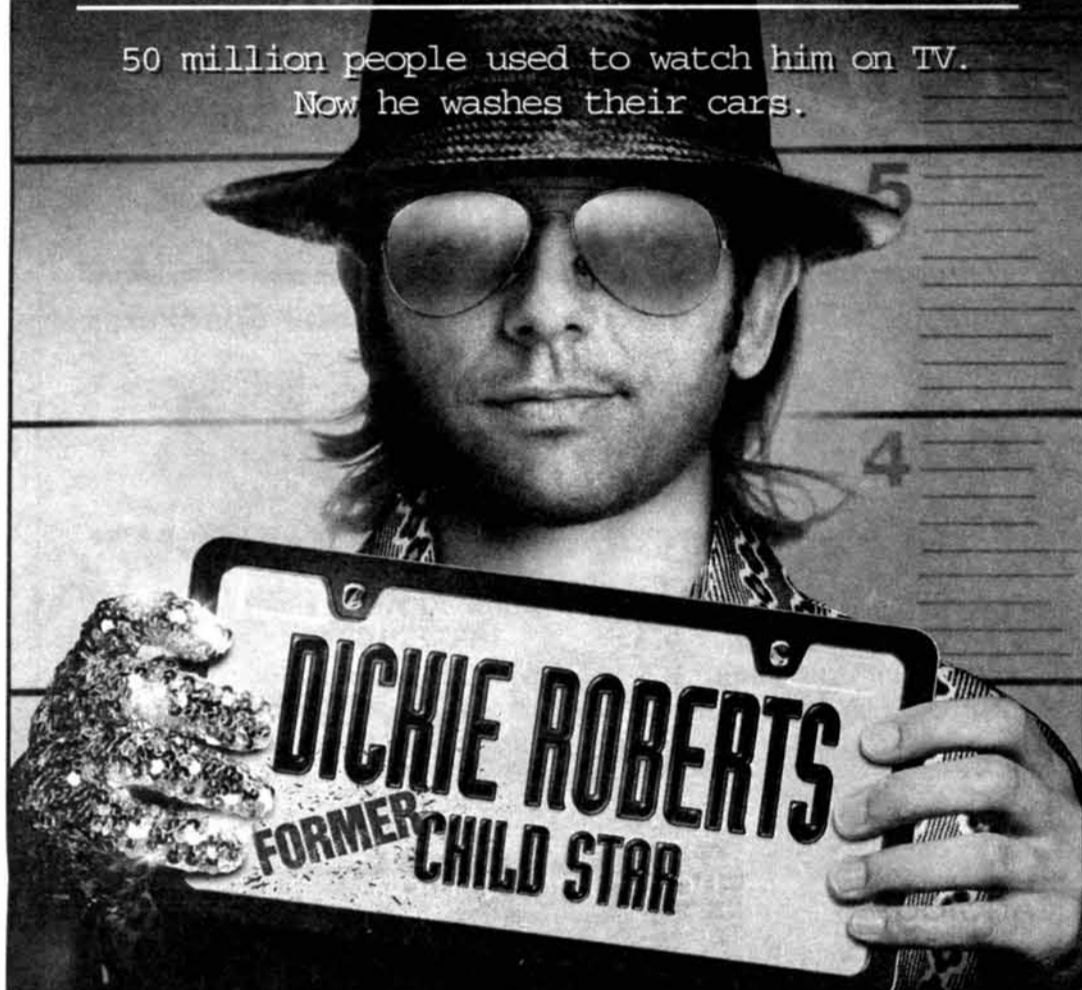
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Room 10-250

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- Any member of the MIT community is welcome to participate

\$10K in cash prizes will be awarded to the three top designs in February 2004.



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12 units

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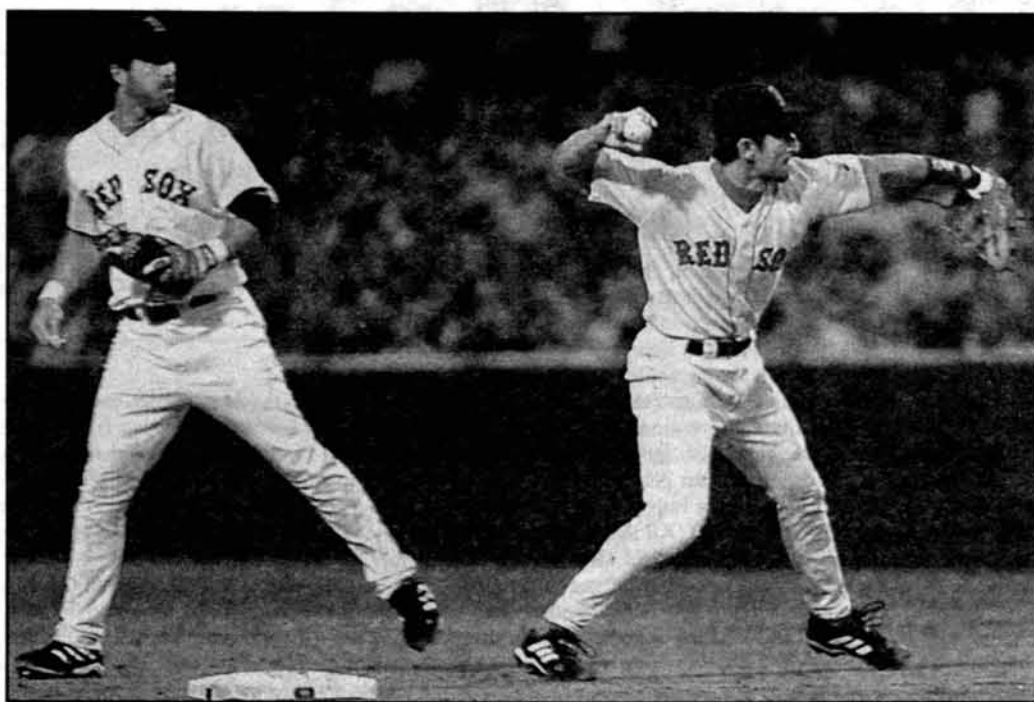
E25-117

Tobie Weiner



Explores how race, education, and community affect MIT and the Cambridge and/or Boston Community. Students will be given an in-depth background into specific community problems at MIT or in Cambridge/Boston. Problems and concerns examined will include racial, education, economic, and political issues. The class allows students to select the issues or concerns on which they will focus for the semester. Students will work throughout the semester to propose solutions that allow for the MIT and Cambridge educational communities to become more inclusive, efficient and equitable.

For more information contact Tobie Weiner at 253-3649, [iguanatw@mit.edu](mailto:iguanatw@mit.edu) E53-484



Second baseman Todd Walker rifles a throw to first to secure a double play for the Red Sox. The Sox won 6-3 against the Toronto Blue Jays on Aug. 27.

JONATHAN WANG—THE TECH



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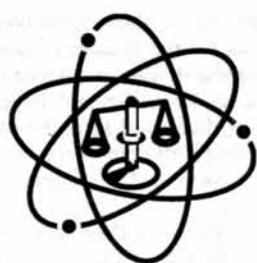
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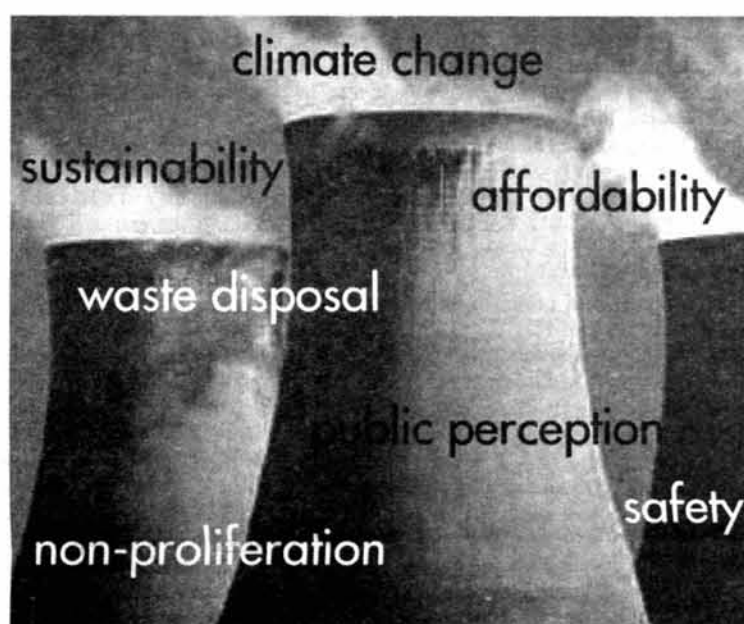
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## FEATURES

## Last Dance

## A Senior Reflects on His Final Tower Court

By Brian Loux  
FEATURES EDITOR

The Tower Court party tends to associate itself with a multitude of emotions, thoughts, and possibly memories for MIT students. Raucous. Awkward. Crowded. Overrated.

## Reporter's Notebook

But most of these ideas focus around sexual activity in one way or another. Ask an MIT student about the party and talk of sex is at the very least implicit in the description. Most of the time, the talk would be about how easy it is to get it or how the rumor of how easy it is to get it is such bullshit.

In my general circle of friends, our thoughts gravitate towards the latter. I have plenty of embarrassing stories that happened to people I knew and myself. For the most part, the dance party became nothing more than an exercise in futility and desperate dreaming of a hedonistic paradise that either didn't exist or we missed. In general, the mythology of the event seems to perpetuate because people keep hearing about friends of friends who hook up at the event each year. In many ways, it has become like a casino or a state lottery to us. The hope that we might be winners has always remained regardless of how many times the experience has proven otherwise.

## Something different

This year was going to be different. We said that for the last three years. But as seniors, this was our last Tower Court. The last time we would get to do it before the deed becomes excessively sketchy. And so some of my friends decided that they would draw up a new game plan. This game plan focused on being more aggressive and less cautious about failure. Also, they would travel in groups to ease the isolation of one girl, and each promised to be another's "wingman" if the situation arose. I distinctly remember similar ideas floating about in years past.

Yes, this year it's going to be different for me. But not like that. I look back on the last three fruitless years and decide to take the "I don't care anymore" route. To hell with the dress code, I say, I'm just not going to do this routine anymore. I wear a non-descript unflattering five-dollar t-shirt I bought two days ago at the festival of Saint Anthony's in North End (and if you get nothing else out of this article, make it this: go to North End festivals as often as you can because they are good fun). I wear a very old and out of style pair of blue jeans shorts with some sparse stains from paint and dirt. I wear a cheap pair of all-purpose sandals

that will suffice for a dance floor. Fuck the Gap khakis and button-downs. I get there and I just dance. Alone. Like a white guy. And enjoy myself. That's it. No going up to girls, no breaking in dance circles, no stupid lines, nothing. Occasionally someone will come up to me (read: twice the whole night), at which point I will reply, "Hi, what's your name?" get her response, shake her hand, and walk somewhere else. I'm just not going to do it.

We arrive at around ten o'clock. There is again a typical crowd of probably 1,000 or more. The place is packed, yet empty.

Eleven o'clock. I become separated from my original group and spend most of the time greeting friends and freshmen that have stories about coming to the party in the back of a fraternity-sponsored U-Haul. I pick up that two of my friends have located partners and are giving it their all while the rest of the group is not as lucky. Late in the hour, I pass by a friend who came with a different group. I'll call him Friend A. Friend A appears to be leading a girl towards the outside of the dancing mass. I don't think anything of it at the moment, though it will come into play later. For the rest of the time, I just try to enjoy the radio station rap and the sprinkling of dance classics.

## The best laid plans

Midnight. If you haven't found a partner yet, you may as well call it quits. Walking back towards the entrance, I find two of my friends sitting on the gym floor away from the action. One was complaining that the flashing lights were making him dizzy, another just following suit. With nothing else to do, we sit down at the far side of the dance floor and talk. Around this time, a bomb was dropped into our camp. Friend A approaches me with a wide-eyed smile. He pats me on the shoulder and says with enough volume for my other two friends to hear, "I just got head outside the gym."

He points in the direction of the entrance/exit of the party, where there is a small roped-off area that leads to the bathrooms. At first I don't believe him, as the area was hardly private enough for such things. Next, I try to recollect what I saw of the girl he was leading in that direction and judge from that. But then I sit and really think about what motive he would have to lie to me. I am not one of his closer friends, and he did not even know the two guys sitting next to me. We were not engaged in any type of game or contest to one-up the other. All in all, his getting head made no difference to me. Which means he was telling the truth. Which was why it did make a difference.

And the reason behind that is Friend A and I are cut from similar cloth. In fact, I might even argue that I have the upper hand as far as physical build goes. Regardless, we are both

far enough away from Brad Pitt level that no woman would swoon when either of us walked into the room. They may even want to avoid guys like us. And yet here he stands before us three with a beaming smile. He had something that we didn't. Here you can go into a flurry of phrases like "aggression" and "confidence" and "benevolent asshole" that try to explain the characteristic that gets a guy sex. Qualifying it is in general a vain act better left for dating advice Web sites. All that is certain is that it's something internal. In another universe, we three could have that internal characteristic, and be smiling and slapping other guys on the back and crafting the experience into an epic poem. So as much as we all joke about how she probably was diseased or ugly, we are all secretly wishing that we could switch roles and have the same opportunity as he.

Note the word "opportunity." Most of the guys there might even turn down the offer, the whole act being too risky. Frankly, sex isn't really the goal of guys at Tower Court. It's vindication: proof to yourself (and maybe peers) that you are capable of attracting a mate. Proof that you're not a loser. Take Friend B, who politely declined his dance partner's invitation to spend the night. Why did the jealousy extend to him, and why did we bust his balls for not taking advantage of the situation instead of welcoming him into the circle of the empty-handed? Because he had won, and we had to knock him back down to our level.

Then maybe there is a game going on at Tower Court. Not "Get Ass," but a college social game to prove one's masculinity, and thus outdo the others around you. Pay ten dollars to gamble your self-confidence in the hope you can double it. The bigger the pot, the bigger the winner you are. And if that's all true, then it would give Friend A reason to lie, bringing me back to square one a little more confused and a lot more frustrated.

## Game over

A group of us leaves the party around 12:30 a.m. and head home with a minimal amount of conversation. I reach my room and put on Frank Zappa's "The Meek Shall Inherit Nothing" for a mood piece and start writing. A few minutes later, Friend C walks in the room with a large smile that soon turns into a look of surprise when he notices I'm in here, too. He introduces a female "friend" he met at the party. As I learn more about this freshman, I shoot him the look that very clearly says "not now and not ever on my couch." After they leave, I hit the save button, turn out the lights, and climb into bed a little earlier than usual. I had experienced enough for one night.

It appeared this year was going to be very much the same.

## UA Q&amp;A

We are very sorry to hear about your traumatizing experience. Not all the gates are open, but there are two alternate ways of getting around: Steinbrenner path between the track and Johnson or around Westgate lot.

We realize that these paths are very inconvenient and maybe in the future we can convince the Department of Athletics, Physical Education, and Recreation to keep the gates open more often and post flyers stating when the gates are accessible.

If any of our readers have had other interesting experiences on Briggs Field, please e-mail [uaqa@mit.edu](mailto:uaqa@mit.edu). Movie royalties will be honored upon request.

What up UA,

Yo, so my friend told me he is running to be a UA Senator and I was like, "Yo, what's that?" And then he was like, "It's off the heezy political." What the dealio?

—P-Litikal

Your friend is right, fo' sho. There are sen-

ator positions from each dorm, the IFC, Panhel, and LGC that together form a legislative body known as the UA Senate.

This body passes bills and resolutions that address student issues and attempt to improve life on campus. Each senator also has the responsibility of taking on individual projects that enhances a particular aspect of student life in which they are interested.

Senators are also required to represent the views of their constituency to administrators, faculty, and the rest of the student body. Elections for Senate as well as 2004 and 2007 class councils will be held this coming Monday through Friday (Sept. 8–Sept. 12). So get yo' ass down to <http://vote.mit.edu>, a'ight?

GOT MORE QUESTIONS? E-mail [uaqa@mit.edu](mailto:uaqa@mit.edu) with your quizzicality. Want more information on any of the issues raised in this column? Visit <http://web.mit.edu/ua/www/uaqa>

## Ask Nutty B

By Nutty B

Dear Nutty B,

The Orientation activities are about to be over, and school is about to start. I am a freshman, and I am quite nervous about this whole college thing. How am I going to prepare myself so that by the time I am 22, I will graduate with honors in 5 majors and get ready for my PhD and MD?

—Sleepless in Cambridge

Dear Sleepless,

Take a breath and splash some water on your face. If you are still in your unrealistic dream, I suggest you ask your roommate to hit you with a baseball bat. Hello?!? You just started and you are already panicking?

Don't stress yourself too much, or the only thing you are going to get in four years will be a certificate of release from the mental institute!

For your information, there is no honors degree at MIT. As for the number of majors you wish to complete: if your roommate hasn't hit you with a bat, I will! Get real, buddy! I am sure you have done well in high school and are nerdy enough to come here, but an ambition that unrealistic will only hurt you in the long run.

You should try to get to know your environment first and try to get used to it. After you are comfortable with where you are then you can start to think about going to Mars. One step at a time! Just relax and try your best, and that's all that counts! Enjoy your years here and make it a blast!

Dear Nutty B,

I am a PhD student here going into my third year. Just a few days ago, I met this girl in our departmental orientation and I was totally stunned. She just arrived to start her first year of graduate studies. I really want to ask her out, but I don't know how. Any advice?

—Easily Blushed

Dear Easily Blushed,

Would you like to try Elle Wood's Bend and Snap? I personally have never seen a guy using it on a girl, but perhaps you would like to be the first to try?

Have you found out what her name is yet? If not, maybe you should ask her next time you see her? Before you just go and ask her to dine with you, you should start out with getting her name and REMEMBERING IT! I am sure she will be attending other activities hosted by your department, so just go to those events and introduce yourself when you see her again. Please, and I repeat, please, do not eat garlic or onion before you go so that you can smell sexy! While I am sure everyone has his or her own taste, I haven't really met anyone who enjoyed talking to someone whose breath smells like a vampire-killer. Also, just be yourself! Don't pretend to be a saint when you enjoy kicking every cat and dog you see on the streets, and don't say you sound like Bryan Adams when you shatter glass windows every time you sing. Remember, only the truth will set you free!

Now drop this newspaper, go take a shower, brush your teeth, and finally put on your clean underwear. Pick out a good outfit and go find your gal. Good luck!

Thanks for the numerous responses I have received. Please send all questions to [askNuttyB@yahoo.com](mailto:askNuttyB@yahoo.com).

**FRIENDS  
DON'T LET  
FRIENDS  
DRIVE  
DRUNK.**



U.S. Department of Transportation

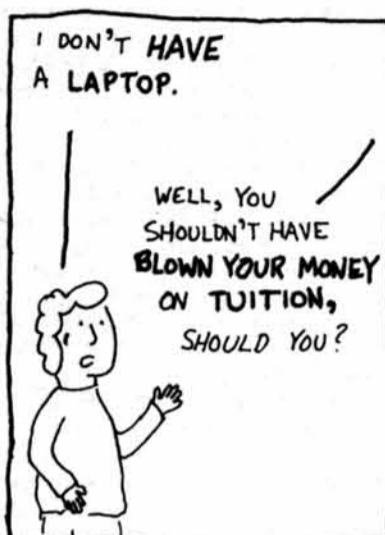
This space donated by The Tech

**Want to give romantic advice?  
Think you're the God of Love?  
Write for Features!**



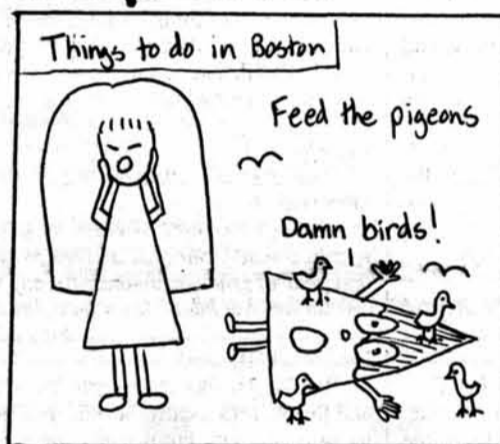
E-mail [join@the-tech.mit.edu](mailto:join@the-tech.mit.edu) or visit room 483 of the Student Center

Filler Space UNPLUGGED



## Hay Fever

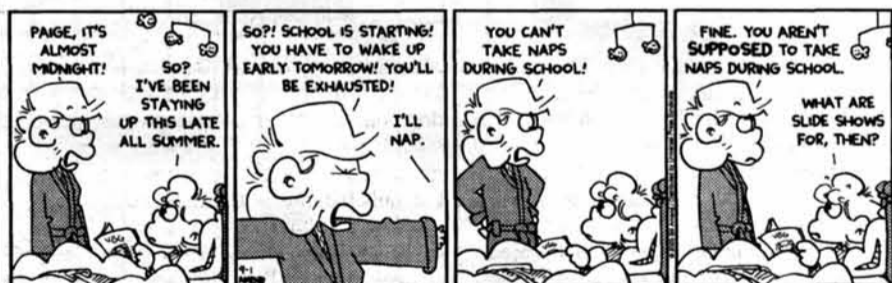
by Qian Wang + Jennifer Peng



Email us your comments -JPeng

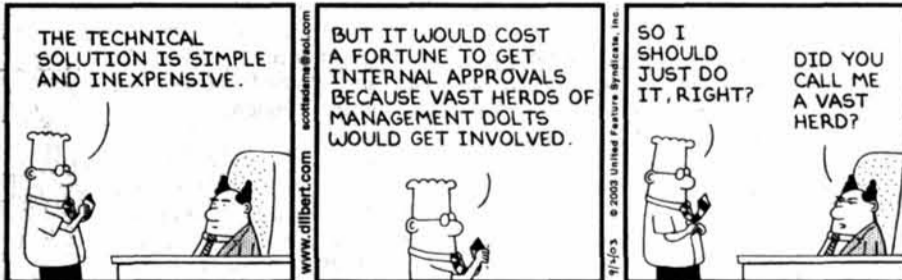
## FoxTrot

by Bill Amend



## Dilbert

by Scott Adams



# Positive Sinking

## The Death of DTH and a Call for E-mails

By Akshay Patil  
COLUMNIST

Well, welcome back to the 'tute. Hope you had a great summer, because it's over. It's not coming back. Well, I guess it sort of is, but that'll be a

### Column

different summer, which will be similar, but altogether not quite the same as the one we just had. I, however, digress.

For all you regular viewers, you will notice that today's programming differs slightly from normally scheduled Friday Fun Section, "Down the Hatchet." I'm sorry, to say that "Down the Hatchet" is dead ... it is no more, it ceases to be.

Bereft of life it rests in peace. Instead, we here at The Tech are proud to introduce a new feature that we hope you really like entitled "Positive Sinking."

Basically the idea behind "Positive Sinking" is that I have no more ideas.

None. No interesting ones anyways. I do have some choice words about how FOX

cancelled "Family Guy" and the appalling lack of penguins in American media, but those are rants that I will spare you, the concerned viewer.

So, in an effort to keep all of you entertained (including all you freshmen and assorted new people who think that previous paragraph made absolutely no sense), I have decided that the easy, ethical, environmentally-safe thing to do this term is start an e-mail-fueled column. That's right, every week tens of thousands of you should write fascinating e-mails to me ([sinking@mit.edu](mailto:sinking@mit.edu)), from which I will select the utterly awe-inspiring few that will provide fodder for whatever it is I decide to write about.

Valid topics include pretty much anything from animals taking over the world to how much I rock/suck-ass to philosophical questions concerning my ability to type with boxing gloves on.

Yes, together, you and I will create a virtual orgy of ideas ... an abundance of asi-

nine, a watershed of weird, a collection of craziness, a cornucopia of copulat ... errr. You get the idea.

Of course, such quality programming can only happen thanks to viewers like you.

In order for this to work, I'm going to need your help. I am but one man. I'm going to need funny articles, criticism, contemplations, rants, you name it from all y'all. And lots of them. Some say it can't work, but I have faith in you, the Reader. I capitalize your name not as a measure of abstract symbolism, but to address You, my sole reader. Hi, mom.

Anyways, I'm going to need e-mails, because if not I'll get angry. You wouldn't like me when I'm angry.

So having exhausted my call for e-mails in the spirit of "Positive Sinking," I pose a question to you in the spirit of the now daisy-pushing "Down the Hatchet."

Do they eat Cheerios in England? I mean think about it, would you buy a cereal "Good-bye's"? I don't think so; that'd be

pretty morbid. I would look to the nutritional information half expecting to see "rat poison" listed as the main ingredient.

But it's a well-known product here on this side of the pond, and you would think that it might just be one piece of American culture that we decided to stuff down the throat of the Brits. Maybe they call it something else in a concerted effort not to scare away possible timid, rightly-postured consumers.

To all those MIT CMI exchange students who probably aren't reading this column, I challenge you to find out and report back as to the state of our brethren's breakfast cereals. If any current Cambridge CMI exchange students have wandered this far down the column, please, send me e-mail and fill me in ...

Remember, that's [sinking@mit.edu](mailto:sinking@mit.edu). And if, indeed, Cheerios are sold in the Great land of Britain, do people comment on, joke about, make musings concerning the brand name? It just seems too good to pass up.

Commonly  
Unbearable.

Dangerously  
Believable.

Subsequently  
Fatal.

#1 Cause of Suicide  
**UNTREATED  
DEPRESSION**

<http://www.save.org>

This space donated by The Tech

## MIT: Miscellaneous Institute Trivia

By Issel Lim

### Historical Hodgepodge

- On April 10, 1861, the Massachusetts Institute of Technology was incorporated by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.
- MIT moved from Boston to a new Cambridge campus in June of 1916.
- The Latin motto of MIT, *Mens et manus*, meaning "Mind and hand," appears on the official seal, which was adopted on December 26, 1864.
- The first president of MIT was William Barton Rogers, who served from 1862-70, 1879-81. Charles Marsteller Vest has been president since 1990.
- Senior Haus was initially occupied in July 1916. MIT then utilized the following buildings for living quarters (in chronological order): East

Campus (separate parallels occupied in 1924 and 1931), Bexley Hall (1939), Baker House (1949), Burton-Conner (1950), McCormick Hall (separate wings occupied in 1963 and 1968), Random Hall (1968), MacGregor House (1970), New West Campus Houses (1976), 500 Memorial Drive (Next House — 1981).

### Admissions

- Undergraduate program: In 2002, 10,664 candidates submitted final applications for the freshman class, and 1,724 (16 percent) were offered admission. Total first-year enrollment was 980; an additional 25 students transferred to MIT from other universities.
  - Graduate program: In 2002, 16,133 candidates applied for graduate study. Of the 3,416 candidates who received offers of admission, 2,071, or 61 percent, registered in advanced degree programs at MIT.
- Source: <http://web.mit.edu/facts/admission.html>

## Crossword Puzzle

Solution, page 8

### ACROSS

- 1 Grip
- 6 First murder victim
- 10 Plants seeds
- 14 Man in a scull
- 15 Walking stick
- 16 Ashtabula's lake
- 17 Start of a Mae West quote
- 19 Took a cab
- 20 Be concerned
- 21 Barcelona mister
- 22 Part 2 of quote
- 28 Pardoned
- 29 Actor Gross
- 30 Ceremony
- 31 Friend in France
- 32 Rim
- 35 Praiseful poem
- 36 Part 3 of quote
- 39 Chemical suffix
- 40 Court divider
- 41 Deplore
- 42 "Paper Lion" star
- 43 Right on maps

### DOWN

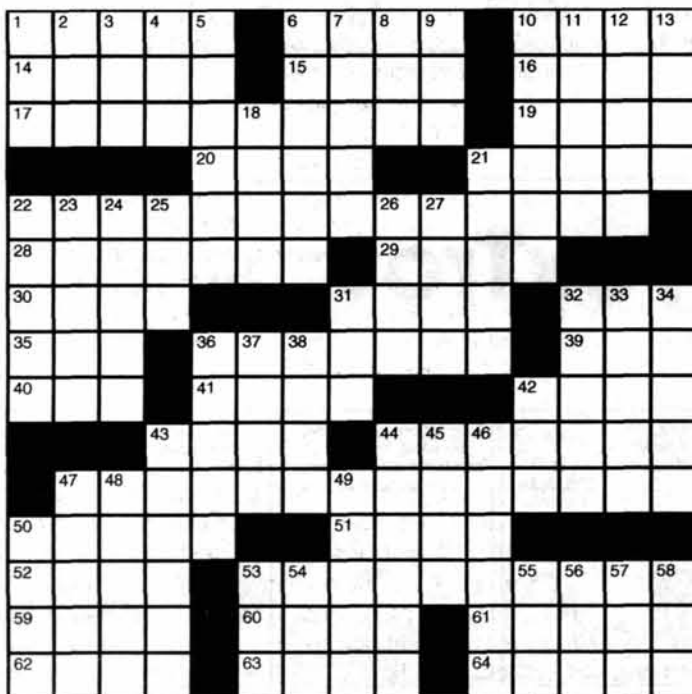
- 1 Dernier
- 2 Euchre variant
- 3 Grain beard
- 4 Jiffy
- 5 Concise summary
- 44 Al fresco
- 47 Part 4 of quote
- 50 Fleeting traces
- 51 Et (and others)
- 52 Bologna eight
- 53 End of quote
- 59 Cinnabar and galena
- 60 Stop up
- 61 Single-syllable state
- 62 Medication unit
- 63 Unsolicited ms. enclosure
- 64 Financial backer

### 6 Tick or mite

- 7 Stationed
- 8 Minnesota twins?
- 9 August sign
- 10 Calm
- 11 Campus site in 61A
- 12 Surviving wife
- 13 Mystic
- 18 Walk in water
- 21 Resembling the firmament
- 22 Evita or Juan of Argentina
- 23 Binary compound
- 24 Two quartets
- 25 Wish undone
- 26 Title
- 27 In good shape
- 31 Live and breathe
- 32 Susan Dey TV series
- 33 Type of ink
- 34 Fruit choices

### 36 Streisand movie, "Up, Doc?"

- 37 Slung dish
- 38 Two of Caesar's final words
- 42 Furthermore
- 43 Uncover
- 44 Make grateful
- 45 Discomfort
- 46 Conundrum
- 47 Explosive stuff
- 48 Park, CO
- 49 Island of Epicurus' birth
- 50 Lumber
- 53 Dosage amt.
- 54 Cup or pay attachment?
- 55 Devotee
- 56 Set up a setup
- 57 "A Chorus Line" song
- 58 Brooks of "High Anxiety"



Something to  
feel good about.

United Way

This space donated by The Tech

# Events Calendar

Visit and add events to Events Calendar online at <http://events.mit.edu>

## Friday, September 5

**9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. – One-Day Symposium.** One-Day Symposium in celebration of the completion of the renovation of the Dreyfus Building (Building 18). Free. Room: Wong Auditorium, E51. Sponsor: Chemistry headquarters.

**10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Sloan.** Free. Room: N42-253. Sponsor: Usability at MIT.

**10:00 a.m. – Admissions Information Session.** Admissions Office Information Session gathers at the Admissions Reception Center (10-100). Enter MIT at the main entrance, Lobby 7, 77 Massachusetts Ave. (domed building with tall pillars). Proceed down the center corridor to Room 10-100 on the right. Following the Admissions information session is a student-led campus tour which begins in Lobby 7 (main entrance lobby). Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Free. Sponsor: Information Center.

**10:45 a.m. – Campus Tour.** student-led campus tours are approximately 90 minutes long and provide a general overview of the main campus. Please note that campus tours do not visit laboratories, living groups or buildings under construction. Groups over 15 people need to make special reservations. Campus tours start at the conclusion of the Admissions information session. The campus tour begins in Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

**11:50 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – China Today Seminar Series — Entrepreneurship in China.** "Entrepreneurship in Asia & Foreign Direct Investment: Reflections for China from India, Taiwan, Hong Kong, Singapore & Malaysia." Lunch provided. Free. Room: E51-345. Sponsor: Chinese Student and Scholar Association, Graduate Student Council, MIT China Program, MIT Sloan Asian Business Club.

**12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Writers Group.** New writers are invited to join our weekly Writers Group (sponsored by the Writing and Communication Center). Share a piece of your writing with other interested and supportive writers. Open to all MIT students, staff, faculty, and spouses. Free. Room: 14N-417. Sponsor: Writing and Communication Center.

**12:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – Aero/Astro Graduate Students Fall Cookout.** Aero/Astro Graduate Students Fall cookout. Come have lunch and mingle with A/A grad students (new and old), faculty, and staff. FREE burgers, dogs, veggie-burgers, drinks, music, etc. Brought to you by GA3 and the GSC. Free. Room: Building 33 Front Lawn. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Graduate Association of Aeronautics and Astronautics.

**1:00 p.m. - 2:00 p.m. – EPTF Meeting.** Environmental Programs Task Force or EPTF meets every month to discuss current and plan future environmental initiatives on campus. Topics of discussion range from recycling, organizing events, raising environmental awareness and others. Please attend and bring your ideas! free. Room: 12-196. Sponsor: Environmental Programs Task Force, The Environment at MIT Web site.

**1:00 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Meet in 68-121.** Free. Room: 68-121. Sponsor: 7.13.

**1:10 p.m. - 1:50 p.m. – Muslim Friday Prayer.** Weekly congregational prayer for Muslims. People of other faiths welcome to attend. E-mail [msa-ec@mit.edu](mailto:msa-ec@mit.edu) for more information. Free. Room: W11-110. Sponsor: Muslim students' Association.

**2:00 p.m. – Admissions Information Session.** Free. Room: Admissions Reception Center (Building 10, Room 10-100). Sponsor: Information Center.

**2:45 p.m. – Campus Tour.** Free. Room: Lobby 7 (Main Entrance Lobby at 77 Massachusetts Ave). Sponsor: Information Center.

**3:00 p.m. - 4:30 p.m. – SSL Seminar (Jesus Bolivar).** What I did last summer. Free. Room: 37-212. Sponsor: Aero/Astro.

**4:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Fall Barbeque.** Enjoy the fall weather with a BBQ organized by the Science and Engineering Business Club. Free. Room: Kresge BBQ Pits. Sponsor: Science and Engineering Business Club, GSC Orientation.

**4:00 p.m. – Graduate Economics Association Happy Hour.** Free. Room: E51-345. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Graduate Economics Association.

**4:15 p.m. - 5:15 p.m. – Limit Behavior of the Random Partitions.** Free. Room: 2-338. Sponsor: Combinatorics Seminar. Department of Mathematics.

**5:00 p.m. – Fall Period Funding Applications Due.** Applications due for all Fall Funding Board Requests. Please submit to the GSC Office (50-220). Free. Room: GSC Office (50-220). Sponsor: GSC Funding Board.

**5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Student Loan Art Exhibition Reception.** Please join us for the reception for the Student Loan Art Exhibition at the List Visual Arts Center. The exhibition features a collection of over 300 framed prints and works on paper by leading contemporary artists such as Louise Bourgeois, Nancy Spero, Olafur Eliasson, Keith Haring, Jasper Johns, Roy Lichtenstein, Joan Miro, Vik Muniz, Takashi Murakami, Nam June Paik, Lorna Simpson, Rirkrit Tiravanija, and many more. The program offers MIT students the chance to borrow artwork for the school year by lottery.

Although only MIT students can borrow art, the exhibition is free and open to the public. It is an opportunity for the broader community to catch a glimpse of these innovative works. Free. Room: E15, List Visual Arts Center. Sponsor: List Visual Arts Center.

**6:00 p.m. - 7:30 p.m. – Graduate Christian Fellowship Large Group Fellowship Meeting.** Free. Room: Twenty Chimneys (W20-306). Sponsor: Graduate Christian Fellowship.

**7:00 p.m. - 11:59 p.m. – MIT Anime Club Weekly Showing.** Showing schedule TBA. Free. Room: 6-120. Sponsor: Anime Club, MIT.

**7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. – Grad Hillel Shabbat Dinner.** Jewish traditional Friday night dinner. free. Room: Ashdown West Dining Room. Sponsor: GSC Funding Board, Grad Hillel.

**7:30 p.m. – L'Auberge Espagnole.** "Funny, smart, and sexy, not to mention the best advertisement for the euro I've ever seen." — Michael O'Sullivan, *The Washington Post*. This summer's smash-hit French comedy about growing up in the New Europe features Audrey Tautou (*Amélie*), and is the winner of a César (French Oscar) for actress Cécile De France. French graduate student Xavier participates in an exchange program and goes abroad — far, far away to Barcelona. He finds an interesting place to live, in an apartment full of young twentysomethings from all over Europe. Everyone's affable enough, but nobody really understands each other, as the students hail from Germany, the United Kingdom, Italy, Spain, Denmark, and Belgium. Engaging and catchy, the film shows off the many benefits of travel and exposure to other cultures. There are great changes in Xavier's life, as he breaks up with his girlfriend and learns about making love to women from a Belgian lesbian. After a year away from France, Xavier has experienced the fusing of cultures that is transforming Europe's identity in this period of unification. \$3. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: LSC, Center for International Studies, MIT-Italy Program, MIT France Program, MIT-Germany Program.

Events Calendar appears in each issue of *The Tech* and features events for members of the MIT community. *The Tech* makes no guarantees as to the accuracy of this information, and *The Tech* shall not be held liable for any losses, including, but not limited to, damages resulting from attendance of an event. Contact information for all events is available from the Events Calendar web page.

**8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. – Sangam Movies.** Screening of popular movies. Please subscribe to [sangam-request@mit.edu](mailto:sangam-request@mit.edu). Free. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Sangam.

**8:00 p.m. – "Into the Woods."** Stephen Sondheim's musical. (2 p.m. matinee on Aug. 31). \$9, \$8 MIT community/other students/seniors, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students, \$3 new MIT students; group rates available in advance. Room: Kresge Little theater. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild, MIT.

**8:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – SOCIAL JUSTICE COOPERATIVE FRIDAY MOVIE.** Documentaries and historic films on topics of domestic and foreign politics. Free. Room: 4-231. Sponsor: MIT Social Justice Cooperative.

**9:00 p.m. - 2:00 a.m. – Night Out on the Town.** Go out and explore Landsdowne Street, one of Boston's hottest night spots. There is something for everyone to do! Room: Depart Ashdown House. Sponsor: GSC Orientation.

**10:00 p.m. – L'Auberge Espagnole.** \$3. Room: 10-250. Sponsor: LSC, Center for International Studies, MIT-Italy Program, MIT France Program, MIT-Germany Program.

## Saturday, September 6

**11:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m. – Edgerton Brunch & Yard Sale.** Enjoy a free brunch and pick up fabulous deals at the Yard Sale! Free. Room: Edgerton Courtyard. Sponsor: Edgerton House Residents' Association, GSC Orientation.

**11:30 a.m. - 2:30 p.m. – Multicultural Welcome BBQ.** Welcome BBQ Open to all. Free. Room: Kresge BBQ Pits. Sponsor: AISES, Association of Puerto Rican Students, Black Women's Alliance, La Union Chicana Por Aztlan, Mexican-American Engineers and Scientists, Mujeres Latinas, National Society of Black Engineers, Society of Hispanic Professional Engineers, Chocolate City, Latino/a Cultural Center.

**1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m. – Warehouse Tours.** Walk around the Warehouse and explore its interesting architecture! Free. Sponsor: The Warehouse, GSC Orientation.

**1:00 p.m. – Varsity Women's Tennis vs. Wheaton.** Free. Room: DuPont Tennis Courts/JB Carr Tennis Bubble. Sponsor: Physical Education, Department of Athletics, Physical Education and Recreation.

**1:45 p.m. - 2:30 p.m. – Sidney & Pacific Tours & Art Show.** Tour the insides of MIT's newest graduate dorm and enjoy an art show displaying the works of Joe Gibbons, an associate professor in visual arts, and an actor/film maker. Free. Room: Sidney & Pacific. Sponsor: Sidney-Pacific House Council, GSC Orientation.

**2:30 p.m. - 3:30 p.m. – Tang Hall & Westgate Tours.** Visit the tallest dorms on MIT campus, and enjoy magnificent views of Boston across the river! Free. Room: Tang Hall. Sponsor: Westgate Community Association, GSC Orientation.

**3:30 p.m. - 4:15 p.m. – Ashdown House Tour.** Visit the second oldest graduate dorm in the country, and enjoy it's beautiful architecture! Free. Room: Ashdown House. Sponsor: Ashdown House, GSC Orientation.

**4:15 p.m. - 5:00 p.m. – Edgerton Tours.** Visit Edgerton House. Free. Room: Edgerton House. Sponsor: Edgerton House Residents' Association, GSC Orientation.

**4:30 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – TMRC Build Time.** These are our normal meetings, where we build the layout. Free. Room: N52-118. Sponsor: Tech Model Railroad Club (TMRC).

**5:00 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Warehouse Dessert.** Enjoy some dessert just before the Outdoor movie. Free. Room: Warehouse. Sponsor: The Warehouse, GSC Orientation.

**6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m. – Welcome Night/Bible Study.** Welcome new grad students! Start off your year right by seeking God's truth in the Bible. Come meet other students and professionals. Special slideshow presentation. FREE DINNER! Note: our regular bible study begins next week. Free. Room: W11, main dining hall. Sponsor: Asian Baptist Student Koinonia Graduate Division, GSC Funding Board.

**7:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m. – Tang Outdoor Movie.** Come enjoy an outdoor movie in the Tang courtyard. This event is a part of the traveling social and will be followed by people heading over to Sidney & Pacific for a party. Rain date is Sunday. Free. Room: Tang BBQ Pits. Sponsor: Tang Hall Residents Association, GSC Orientation.

**8:00 p.m. - 11:30 p.m. – Sangam Movie Special.** Movie Screenings. E-mails are typically sent out if you subscribe to [sangam-request@mit.edu](mailto:sangam-request@mit.edu). Free. Room: 2-105. Sponsor: Graduate Student Council, Sangam.

**8:00 p.m. - 12:00 a.m. – MITCSSA Dancing Party.** Ballroom dancing and disco will be served. free for MIT student and \$5/ea for non-MIT community. Room: Lobdell Dining. Sponsor: Chinese Student and Scholar Association, GSC Activities.

**8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. – Patrol.** Travel to strange new classrooms. Meet interesting, unusual people, and kill them! Patrol is a high-action game of live combat with rubber-dart guns. Shoot your friends, then watch out as they try to take their revenge. Free. Room: 36-115. Sponsor: Assassins' Guild, MIT.

**8:00 p.m. – "Into the Woods."** Stephen Sondheim's musical. (2 p.m. matinee on Aug 31). \$9, \$8 MIT community/other students/seniors, \$6 MIT/Wellesley students, \$3 new MIT students; group rates available in advance. Room: Kresge Little theater. Sponsor: Musical Theatre Guild, MIT.

**9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – S & P Dance Party.** Finish off the day with a night of non-stop dancing! Free. Room: Sidney & Pacific. Sponsor: Sidney-Pacific House Council, GSC Orientation.

**9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – Off-Campus Residents Social.** Meet other residents from your area and enjoy free appetizers. Free. Room: to be announced. Sponsor: GSC Orientation.

**9:00 p.m. - 1:00 a.m. – Dance Party.** A high energy dance party with DJs from New York, San Francisco, and of course Boston. Free. Room: Sidney Pacific Graduate Dormitory. Sponsor: Sidney-Pacific House Council.

## Sunday, September 7

**12:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m. – Whale Watch.** Meet graduate students and whales on a four hour daytime cruise. \$10/\$15. Room: Depart Kendall T (inbound). Sponsor: GSC Orientation.

**6:00 p.m. - 8:00 p.m. – TCC BBQ.** Free. Room: Kresge BBQ pits. Sponsor: Tech Catholic Community, GSC Funding Board.

**7:00 p.m. - 9:30 p.m. – Tang Movie Night (rain date).** Free. Room: Tang House. Sponsor: GSC Orientation.

**8:00 p.m. - 11:00 p.m. – International Folk Dancing (participatory).** International folk dancing. Teaching and beginners' dances from 8:00 to 9:00 p.m. A mixture of all skill levels from 9:00 to 11:00 p.m. Occasional live music. Note: We will move to La Sala de Puerto Rico (on the second floor of the Student Center) if it is available. MIT/Wellesley students free; \$1 donation (or more) requested from others. Room: Student Center room 491. Sponsor: Folk Dance Club.

## SPORTS

## Red Sox Hot to Trot

By Phil Janowicz

COLUMNIST

Down 9-7 in the top of the ninth in Philadelphia, the Red Sox came to the plate. Having already battled in an up-down game for the past three hours, the Phillies were in the lead. Fortunately for the Sox, Jose Mesa was coming in to close out the game.

Notorious for his late-game meltdowns even more so than Armando Benitez, Mesa proceeded to give every Red Sox player a Christmas gift. Mesa gave up two walks with a single sandwiched in between when recent reacquisition Lou Merloni came to the plate. The many Red Sox fans in the 61,068-person crowd at the Vet started cheering "Loouuuuu!" Then, Merloni hit a soft bouncer to Tomas Perez at third that Perez couldn't handle for an out. You can't blame Mesa for that single, but you can blame him for the previous two walks and wild pitch which prompted the intentional walk of Nomar.

Now, with the bases still loaded and the Phillies clinging to a 9-8 lead, Mesa proceeded to walk Kevin Millar to blow another save. Maybe the Phillies could have minimized the damage, but Trot Nixon came to the plate. Phillies manager Larry Bowa smartly decided to go to the only guy left in his bullpen, Turk Wendell, to cauterize the wound. Unfortunately for the Phillies, Trot slammed a 379-foot shot to right field which

capped the Red Sox comeback.

What impressed me even more in that inning was the at-bat by sidearm closer Byung-Hyun Kim. With one out and a runner on first, Kim was called upon to bunt the runner over to second. After missing a bunt and fouling another one off, Kim found himself down 0-2. Then, Kim lined a bullet down the first baseline. Unfortunately, he hit it to the one spot on the field where Phillies first baseman Jim Thome could record an unassisted double play to end the inning.

The reason that at-bat impressed me is it shows that all members of the Sox are giving it their all no matter when or in what situation they're called upon to do so. Jeff Suppan remarked, "This was a great win for us as a team, everybody contributed." Todd Walker called that win the best one of the season so far.

Perhaps this is just what the Sox needed to make a late-season surge in the standings.

## Jano Awards:

This week's Jano Awards are dedicated to the memory of Wesley Willis.

Hitting: "Fox" Trot Nixon of the Boston Red Sox. In addition to his monster grand slam, Nixon added another home run in Chicago last Tuesday to complement his .450 average the last week.

Honorable Mention: Jody "Spans the" Gerut of the Cleveland Indians. The past week, rookie Jody Gerut has eight runs scored, four homers, 13 RBIs, and a .357 average. With Coco Crisp and Ryan Lud-

wick shaping up to be great additions as of late, next year's Indians outfield will be dangerous.

Pitching: Matt "Jimmy" Morris of the St. Louis Cardinals. Back from a plethora of injuries, Morris pitched one hell of a week. Giving up only two runs in 14 innings over the past week, Morris seems to have returned to dominating form. Matt, you're just what the Cardinals needed.

Honorable Mention: Brian Schmack of the Detroit Tigers. You heard me. Schmack has the perfect birth name for a relief pitcher so no nickname is necessary. Having given up only one run since being called up from AAA, Schmack recorded his first major league win last Tuesday against the Indians. Hopefully, the Tigers can look forward to a Schmack-down in the ninth next year.

Utility: Tony "Manager of the Year" Pena of the Kansas City Royals. Okay, let's face it. The Royals are exhausted. Thankfully, September call-ups are here to give the Royal starters some much needed rest here and there. Despite the rampant exhaustion, Tony Pena still believes that the Royals can win as long as they still have heart. It takes a special guy to keep the Royals motivated and in the playoff hunt. If you're not already, you should all pull for the Royals.

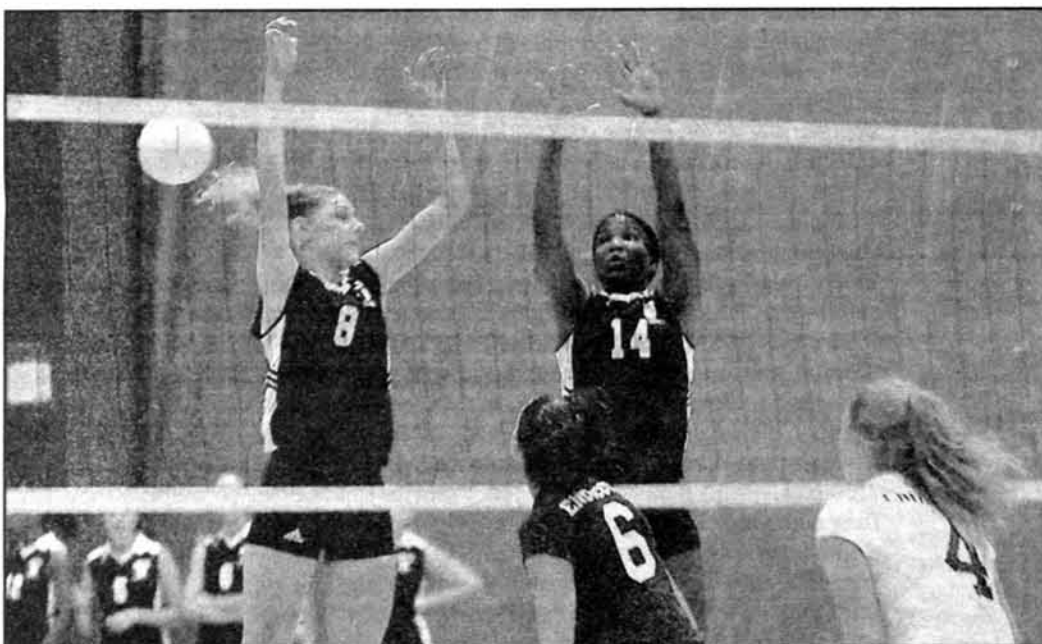
Honorable Mention: Vladimir "The Impaler" Guerrero of the Montreal Expos. Back from a herniated disk in his back, Guerrero has returned to form at the plate. In the past week, Guerrero has seven runs, five

homers, eight RBIs, one stolen base, and a .458 average. Guerrero has brought back with him the Expos playoff hopes.

Boner of the Week: Antonio "You Can Call Me" Alfonseca of the Chicago Cubs. No matter what you do, you don't touch an ump. Period. In game two of the Cardinals-Cubs doubleheader Tuesday, the Cubs were down 0-2 with the bases loaded and two outs. Matt Morris delivered a pitch inside, and the ball was hit down the third base line. The third base umpire, Justin Klemm, followed the ball until it hit the ground and called it just barely foul. Multiple replays showed a little bit of chalk kicked up from the ground where the ball hit, but what the ump says goes.

After the batter promptly flew out to end the inning, Moises Alou ran over to Klemm and complained enough to get tossed. Kenny Lofton held him back from getting a suspension, but Alfonseca went up to say something to Klemm. Alfonseca claims that he wasn't trying to bump him a good ten feet back, but that seems hardly accidental. Crew Chief Mike Reilly said of the attack, "It was one of the most severe attacks of an umpire I've seen in the big leagues." Even if it was accidental, you shouldn't have even put yourself in the position to do so.

Honorable Mention: Jose "Plateau" Mesa of the Philadelphia Phillies. I hate you now. I hated you in 1997. Hopefully, this year you'll once again let the Marlins win playoff games.



PETER R. RUSSO—THE TECH  
Caroline D. Jordan '06 (8) and Nydia M. Clayton '04 (14) guard the net during the MIT volleyball team's win over Endicott College Wednesday. The Engineers won the match 3-0, with game scores of 30-10, 30-13, and 30-15.

## UPCOMING HOME EVENTS

Saturday, Sept. 6

Men's Soccer, Theurkauf Memorial Alumni game, Time TBA

Men's Football, Husson, 10:30 a.m.

Cross Country, Alumni Meet, 4:15 p.m.

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